BENGALURU, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 20 Pages PRICE ₹4

# Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

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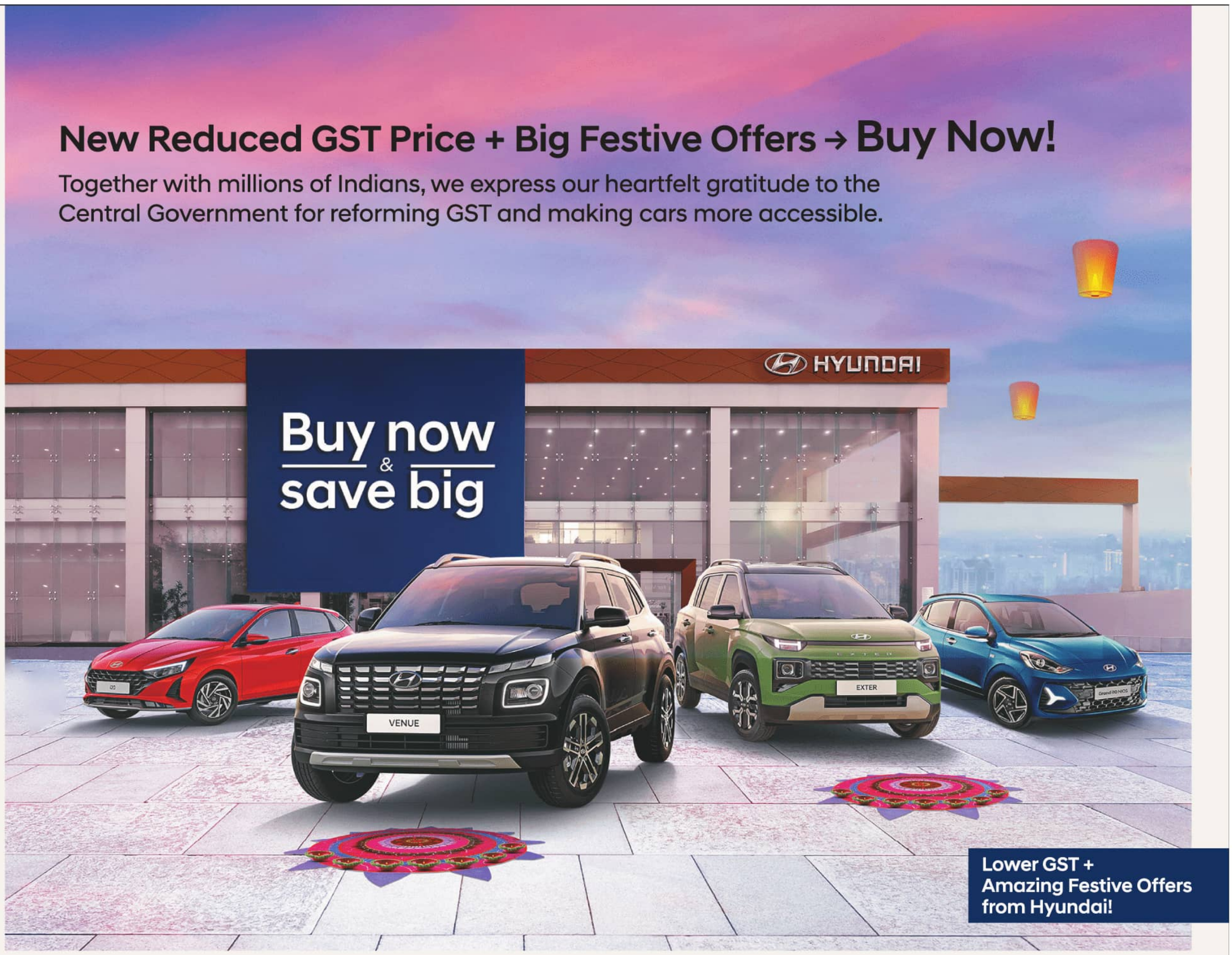
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## DEEP DISTRESS

Citizens allege Karnataka Groundwater Authority looking the other way as borewells suck B'luru dry

PAGE 6

## GENDER BIAS?

Deepika wonders why there is no hue and cry over male superstars who have had 8-hour shifts for years

PAGE 15

### As traffic police register over 1,800 cases of vehicles carrying lengthy material this year, commuters ask why danger lurks on city roads daily if rules are being enforced strongly enough

# NOW, THAT'S A LOADED QUESTION

## Jalahalli, Bellandur, E-City, Hulimavu, Madiwala are hotspots

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

PIC FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

Vehicles carrying protruding goods, whether iron rods, plastic pipes, or any other item, are punishable under section 190 (3) of the Motor Vehicle Act of 1988.

However, goods carriers continue to carry such a load, posing risk to commuters on the city's roads.

This year, more than 1,800 cases of vehicles carrying lengthy material on Bengaluru's roads have been registered.

Out of these, 261 vehicles carrying lengthy material were booked in January by Bengaluru Traffic Police, 252 cases were registered in February, followed by 480 violation cases in March, 191 cases in April, 185 such vehicles booked in May, 220 challans issued in June, and 275 violations were registered in July.

The majority of these challans were issued in Jalahalli, Bellandur, Electronic City, Hulimavu, and Madiwala traffic police stations.

Citizens say the rule should be enforced by the Transport Department and the traffic police. However, these carriers continue

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

**"Protruding goods in vehicles have caused numerous fatal accidents in the past. It is unacceptable that such vehicles are still plying on city roads, posing a significant hazard for road users**

—Commuter

# On a highway to hell

## NCRB data shows private vehicles cause more accidental deaths than commercial vehicles

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Bengaluru witnessed 370 deaths among car, SUV, and jeep users in 2023, far outnumbering fatalities from buses (four) and trucks/mini trucks (nine), according to NCRB mode-of-transport data. This clearly indicates that private vehicle users are the most vulnerable in the city's road ecosystem, despite public and commercial vehicles also sharing the roads.

Lower casualty rates for organised commercial transport may be possibly due to stricter regulations, professional drivers, and regulated routes. In comparison, Delhi reported 327 car/SUV deaths, along with 34 bus deaths and 94 truck deaths, showing that commercial vehicles can pose higher risks in cities with heavier long-haul freight traffic.

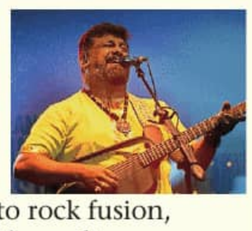
PAGE 6: REPEAT OFFENDERS

Bengaluru's car-related deaths (370) are proportionally higher than Chennai (198) and Hyderabad (109), though Delhi remains the leader with 1,151 deaths in private vehicles. Truck- and bus-related deaths in Bengaluru are also lower than cities like

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14 »

## THINGS TO DO

### 01 Melody lane



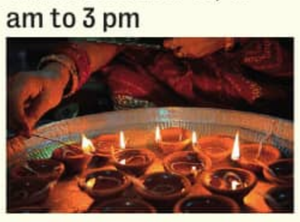
Raghu Dixit will be taking the stage for a spectacular Silver Jubilee celebration of timeless tunes and unforgettable performances. From folk soul to rock fusion, the performance is set to take the audience on a melodious journey. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: October 11, 7 pm**

### 02 Drawn in

Anek Art Collective is presenting its maiden group exhibition, '8 Artists, 8 Narratives', a celebration of the diverse styles of artworks from its talented artists. The collective, whose name 'Anek' means 'multitude,' reflects a group identity at the intersection of divergent creative perspectives. **Where: Art Houz, Vasanth Nagar; When: Until October 12, 10.30 am to 7 pm**

### 03 Festive fiesta

Embassy Academy is coming up with the second edition of its Diwali Fiesta with a theme of 'Royal Diwali Across India', promising a vibrant day of joy, colour, and festive cheer, to celebrate the Diwali spirit. **Where: Embassy Academy, Devanahalli; When: October 11, 10 am to 3 pm**



### 04 Tradition, tailored

Somaiya Kala Vidya's Annual Graduation Exhibition – Kai Magga Kale Sangama – presents the graduating class of 2025 from Bagalkote, with special glimpses from Kachchh and SKV's outreach projects. The exhibition reflects a shared mission to empower artisans, preserve India's cultural heritage, and promote sustainable livelihoods. **Where: Sabha, Shivaji Nagar; When: October 11 and 12, 10 am to 7 pm**

### 05 Handmade joy

Orion Malls are holding a DIY Diwali workshop for children and families. Design your own creations with terracotta diya painting, candles and candle holders, wall hangings, stunning lotus wall decor and many more Diwali themed DIY creations. **Where: Orion Avenue Mall, Cooke Town & Orion Uptown Mall Whitefield-Hoskote; When: Oct 11, 12 and Oct 18, 19**

# CM highlights last-mile connectivity as key priority in first GBA meeting

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday chaired the first meeting of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) at the Kempegowda Town Hall, emphasising last-mile connectivity as a critical component of the city's urban planning. A key focus of the meeting was on last-mile connectivity to reduce traffic congestion. The Chief Minister directed officials to develop and implement plans to enhance connections to Metro stations, including the deployment of small buses and feeder services. Transport authorities were tasked with reviewing the feasibility of such initiatives to ensure smooth commuter access.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister highlighted that Bengaluru is one of the fastest-growing cities globally, attracting not only investments from around the world but also residents who have made the city their home. With a population of approximately 1.4 crore, managing such a vast metropolis requires more than a single municipal body.

The Chief Minister recalled that during his previous tenure, a committee was formed to examine the possibility of creating additional municipal corporations in Bengaluru. While an interim report had been submitted, subsequent governments did not act on it. After returning to office, the committee was reconstituted, and with public feedback incorporated, the Greater Bengaluru Authority was formally established under the law, bringing five municipal corporations into existence.

GBA became operational on May 15, 2025, with the objective of delivering citizen-centric governance and decentralising authority for more effective administration. The Chief Minister instructed that the Authority must ensure essential civic services, proper waste management, reduced traffic congestion, and well-maintained roads and drainage systems. He also emphasised the importance of enhancing urban aesthetics and increasing the revenue streams of all five municipal corporations.

Coordinated action among state departments and civic bodies such as Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM), and Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) was highlighted as essential to deliver seamless services to Bengaluru residents. Municipal corporations were instructed to establish dedicated administrative offices and ensure efficient waste collection and street maintenance. Footpaths were to be widened wherever possible, and the quality of infrastructure work was to be strictly monitored, with no compromises allowed even in cases of contractor involvement. **— BMB**

# Too lengthy, too risky

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to ply on roads, on some occasions, without checks.

"The number of violations registered by traffic police is not even the tip of the iceberg. I commute to the centre of the city from the Electronic City area regularly, and I come across multiple such vehicles with iron rods and pipes jutting out. A minor error on the road with such vehicles in front can lead to a serious accident," said a commuter.

It may be recalled that in 2015, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, in an advisory issued to all states, had instructed strict implementataion of the Central Motor Vehicle Rule, which prohibits good carriers from carrying any load that is protruding outside the vehicle.

As per the amendment in the rule brought in 2014, vehicles carrying such loads would be in contravention of the rule, and carrying iron rods and goods jutting beyond the body frame is punishable under section 190 (3) of the Motor Vehicle Act of 1988.

"Enforcement of these rules is the weak link. Smaller good vehicles on various roads in the city with rods and girders jutting outside the body frame are a common sight. Protruding goods in vehicles have caused numerous fatal accidents in the past. It is unacceptable that such vehicles are still plying on city roads, posing a significant hazard for road users," said a commuter near Yelahanka. In 2024, Bengaluru Traffic Police registered 2,504 cases against vehicles plying with protruding goods.

# Three cough syrups recalled after child deaths across states

Following reports of over 20 child deaths in multiple states linked to the consumption of toxic cough syrups, the central government has ordered a nationwide recall of three specific brands. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has been informed, and regulatory authorities are closely monitoring the situation.

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has identified the syrups — Colmif, Respir-Fresh-TR, and Relife — and directed the respective manufacturers to halt production immediately. Officials clarified that these products were not exported to any other countries. In parallel, CDSCO has initiated audits of cough syrup manufacturing companies across the country to examine production processes and product quality.

Meanwhile, doctors are saying that people should not consume syrups bought over the counter. Dr Varshini P, paediatrician from Vasavi Hospitals, said that correct dosage is crucial as the right amount depends on the age and weight of the child. "Even a small mistake can cause serious side effects. Parents need to understand first that each symptom may have a different cause. First, we need to diagnose the cause and then treat it," she said. She noted that certain medications can cause gastrointestinal issues, rashes, or breathing problems. "So, we check for allergies before prescribing. There is a tendency for many to take antibiotics over the counter. However, overuse of antibiotics is leading to drug resistance," she said. **— BMB**

# Kidwai Memorial to expand with 450 new beds for cancer care

To tackle the severe bed shortage and improve care for cancer patients, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology (KMIO) will add 450 beds through a new block on its campus, taking the total capacity from 720 to 1,170. Medical Education Minister Dr Sharan Prakash R Patil directed officials to submit a detailed blueprint immediately and instructed that OPD patients, especially from remote districts, be admitted as in-patients until their investigations are complete to reduce hardship. The expansion aims to aid economically disadvantaged patients.

To further ease Bengaluru's patient load, Peripheral Cancer Centres (PCCs) are being set up in Tumakuru, Mysuru, Mandya, and Karwar, with future centres planned in Ballari, Shivamogga, Raichur, Bidar, and Belagavi. The Kalaburagi PCC, currently with 80 beds, will expand by 210 beds in a new building. **— BMB**

# Student fails passed subject due to revaluation error

A technical error during revaluation at Karnataka State Law University has put a final-year student in a difficult situation, where a subject she had already passed was erroneously marked as failed. The student, who had failed the Land Law paper, applied for revaluation by paying a fee of Rs 500. While the revaluation did not change the outcome of the intended subject, her previously passed Environmental Law paper, in which she had scored 40 marks, was incorrectly revised to 34 marks, resulting in a failure. The student said, "I applied only for Land Law revaluation, but now I have to retake two subjects instead of one." University officials acknowledged the oversight, stating that no complaints had been reported by students or faculty so far, but corrective action would be taken if necessary, according to Registrar Ratnabharma Gowda. **— BMB**

# Papa Johns launches in India with four restaurants in B'luru

Papa Johns officially entered the Indian market on October 10, 2025, with the launch of four new restaurants in Bengaluru. Operated by PJP Foods India Private Limited—a joint venture between PJP Investments Group and Ambrosia QSR—the brand brings its global promise of "Better Ingredients. Better Pizza." to Indian consumers. The new outlets are located in Indiranagar, Hennur, Electronic City, and Sarjapur Road, supported by a centralised Quality Control Centre in Hennur that prepares fresh dough daily.

To mark the launch, Papa Johns collaborated with actor and content creator Danish Sait, who stars in a humorous video celebrating the brand's arrival with a local twist. The Bengaluru-exclusive Ghee Roast Pizza, available in chicken and paneer variants, showcases a fusion of South Indian flavours with Papa Johns' signature style.

**To mark the launch, Papa Johns collaborated with actor and content creator Danish Sait**

Tapan Vaidya, Group CEO of PJP Investments Group, emphasised the brand's commitment to quality and customer satisfaction. "Our pizzas are crafted with fresh, never-frozen dough, premium toppings, and a focus on consistent quality. We are confident that this approach, combined with an experience centred on customer satisfaction, will create strong appeal in India," he said.

Papa Johns Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President Ravi Thanawala highlighted India's dynamic foodservice market as a key growth opportunity. With dine-in, takeaway, and digital ordering options already in place, delivery services are set to follow soon. Papa Johns' India debut blends international favourites with regional flair, laying the foundation for nationwide expansion. **— BMB**

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# Sewage takeover of tony locality in Indiranagar

## After BWSSB fails to respond to complaint, building owner allegedly tries to fix overflowing manhole problem by letting sewage into roadside drain

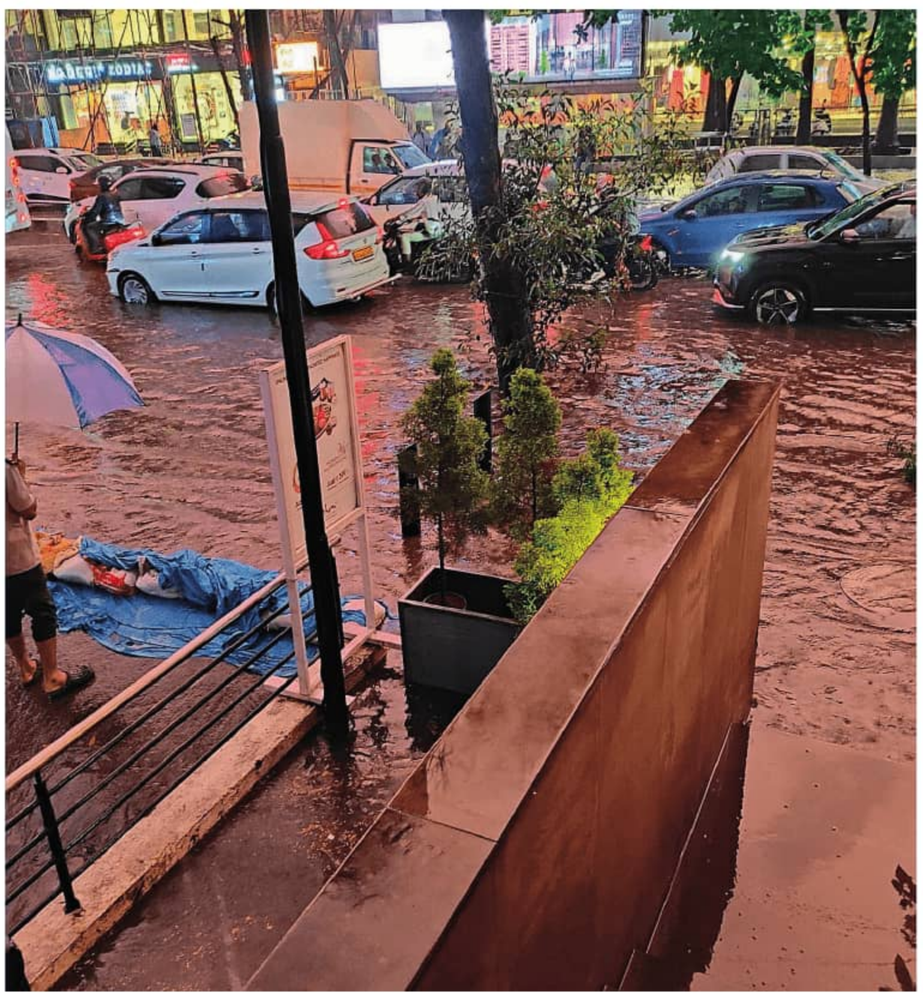
Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

There is a stink in the air when you step into a posh stretch of Indiranagar. Residents of the area, pedestrians, and employees of offices nearby are disturbed by sewage overflowing into a roadside drain near the foot overbridge on 100 Feet Road.

It all started with an overflowing sewage chamber. Residents of the area claim that a building owner engaged a few workers to open a sewage chamber that had been overflowing for more than 10 days. The workers broke the chamber and connected sewage to the roadside drain, causing inconvenience and posing a health hazard to the people around.

"We have complained to the Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) engineer and the Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) engineer about sewage being let into the roadside drain in front of our home. They have not turned up and we continue to suffer. We have also advised Salarpuria Landmark Manager Rizwan Arshad to fix the problem as the sewage is overflowing from the Salarpuria Landmark building," alleged Pradeep Kumar Chipre, a resident of the area.

Expressing concern over the unhygienic atmosphere, Girish S, Manager, World of Stones, said that it has become tough for him to even walk by this area due to foul odour. "My customers have also complained about the stench from sewage. The authorities concerned must fix this problem as soon as possible. It has been pending for more than 10 days," said Girish.



An evening downpour left 100 Feet Road in Indiranagar waterlogged, with sewage overflow worsening the flooding near the foot overbridge

It is believed the sewage pipe was blocked more than 10 days ago and an entrance to Rajdhani Hotel, situated on the first floor of Salarpuria Landmark, was closed for over a week due to the overflowing sewage. "I have incurred a huge loss because of the sewage problem. The number of footfalls has come down drastically. We have advised our customers to use the lift, instead of the main staircase, to enter the restaurant. Not many customers are aware of the lift facility," said Santosh Poojari, manager, Rajdhani Hotel.

**Overflowing sewage along Indiranagar's 100 Feet Road has forced several businesses to deal with falling footfall and customer complaints. Shop owners say the stench has driven customers away, while civic officials have yet to fix the issue despite multiple complaints**

Rizwan Arshad, manager at Salarpuria Landmark, meanwhile told BM that he had filed a complaint with the BWSSB on September 12 but nothing had been done to resolve the issue. "I registered my complaint in the complaint register kept at the BWSSB office. I am trying to fix this problem but the BWSSB engineer is yet to visit the spot," said Rizwan. Assistant Executive Engineer (CV Raman Nagar) of Bengaluru Central City Corporation said that they would issue a notice to the building owner or manager for letting sewage into the roadside drain.

BWSSB Assistant Engineer was not available for comment.

# Bigg Boss drama shifts to pollution fight

## Deputy Chief Minister's assurance to lift the seal at Vels Studios faces criticism as experts cite legal violations under Water and Air Acts

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The Karnataka Government's assurance to lift the seal on Vels Studios and Entertainment Private Limited, where Bigg Boss Kannada was being filmed, has faced criticism from city-based environmentalists. They say the assurance given to the studio by the Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister violates environmental regulations.

Experts note that, although the 2024 amendment to the Act decriminalises minor violations and shifts the penalty from imprisonment to a monetary fine, lifting the seal is in complete disregard of the law.

**Environmentalists question the legality of reopening Vels Studios in Bidadi, Bengaluru South, after KSPCB ordered closure for sewage discharge and waste mismanagement**

"There are penalties prescribed under the Water Act, 1974, for operating without prior consent from the State Pollution Control Board, discharging sewage openly, and failing to manage waste disposal. The KSPCB should impose the penalty instead of the government ensuring the lifting of the seal. This demonstrates that environmental regulations and protection are not a priority for the government," said Dr AN Yellappa Reddy, a noted environmentalist.

Notably, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) ordered the immediate closure of the studio at Bidadi in Bengaluru South on October 7, due to violations of various environmental regulations.

Under the Water Act, 1974, and the Air Act, 1981, state pollution control boards can initiate legal action or issue closure orders if any industry operates without the SPCB's consent, to prevent the discharge of pollutants and enforce compliance.

According to Dr TV Ramachandra, professor at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), the studio should face a penalty under the Polluter Pays Principle, and the seal should be lifted only after compliance is achieved and the penalty is paid.

"Any industry is required to obtain a 'consent to operate' from the SPCB, which also includes a 'no-objection' certificate signifying compliance with environmental standards. If the studio was functioning with so many violations, it implies that KSPCB has also erred in its duties. However, when KSPCB issued a closure order, the Deputy Chief Minister had no right to intervene. No one is above the law. KSPCB should enforce the Polluter Pays Principle and impose a penalty," said Dr Ramachandra. Notably, before issuing the closure order on October 7, KSPCB had issued a notice to the park in April 2024. However, an inspection in June that year showed that the issues persisted.

Following this non-compliance, the regional officer recommended closure of the park under the provisions of the Water Act. In view of these violations, the matter was placed before the State Level Enforcement Committee (SLEC) at its meeting on September 16. After deliberation, the SLEC approved closure directions without granting an opportunity for a hearing.

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### Narrow nightmare

**Rajanukunte**

The narrow Arakere–Byrapura Road near Rajanukunte requires urgent widening to ensure smooth movement of buses and heavy vehicles.

### Stone trap

**Richmond Road**

Poor patchwork on Richmond Road near King Street has made it more hazardous, with loose stones and cement posing risks.

### Pavement crush

**Gandhi Bazar**

In Gandhi Bazar, a fully loaded water tanker is parked on the expensive pavement near A2B—was it intended to bear such weight?

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***Gangavathi:*** *7829927943*

# Groundwater misuse in city apartments raises KGA alarm

## Authority lax with issuing no objection certificates for water extraction, citizens say scrutiny of borewell digging and verification of rainwater harvesting systems is lacking

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka Groundwater Authority (KGA) is tasked with issuing no objection certificates (NOCs) for groundwater extraction for commercial, industrial, and entertainment purposes in notified areas, as well as registering existing users. However, concerns have been raised about officials' lax approach in ensuring proper groundwater utilisation.

It is alleged that KGA officials have been conducting casual inspections in areas where borewells have been dug, sometimes without proper permissions.

In one instance, KGA officials visited Shobha Arena Apartments following a complaint to inspect three borewells on the premises. The inspection report stated that residents had established three sumps to collect rainwater and seven rainwater harvesting pits.

"The association members told us that they made arrangements for seven rainwater percolation pits and three rainwater harvesting stems on the premises," the KGA Deputy Director noted in a letter to the complainant.

File photo of a worker at a borewell drilling site

### Letter directs apartment to provide metering details

Subsequently, the Deputy Director wrote to Shobha Arena Apartments, rather than the RWA president, stating that the KGA had allowed the complex to draw 57 KLD of water from the three borewells.

The letter directed the apartment management to provide details on metering of borewell water, payments made for water usage, measures taken for rainwater harvesting, rooftop harvesting capacity, and the quality of water being extracted.

Dhananjaya Padmanabhachar, Sanchalak of Karnataka Home Buyers Forum, said the KGA notice should serve as a wakeup call for all Bengaluru apartments to verify whether promoters have implemented rainwater harvesting and ensure water quality compliance.

**Apartment owners urged to verify whether promoters have implemented rainwater harvesting before buying properties as even authority not strict about sustainability measures**

### Wake-up call for home buyers

"Many flat owners don't know the laws of extracting water. It's a natural resource that needs to be used cautiously. Conservation of water for ourselves and for our future generations is everyone's responsibility," he said. He called for apartment promoters and home buyers to wake up and ensure rain water harvesting is being done and used effectively for water conservation.

# City drivers top repeat traffic offenders

## With 10.8% of drivers breaching rules multiple times, Bengaluru surpasses all metros in unsafe and careless driving behaviour

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Bengaluru, already notorious for its traffic snarls, has now earned another dubious distinction — the city has the highest rate of repeat traffic violations in India. According to a recent survey, Bengaluru drivers are the most frequent offenders, with habitual violations far exceeding those in other metropolitan cities.

The survey found that 10.8% of Bengaluru's drivers have accumulated fines for more than 10 violations — the highest among metros. Of the 1.45 million traffic checks conducted, nearly 61% of drivers, or six in ten, had at least one pending challan, pointing to rampant non-compliance.

**City also leads the nation in digital violations, with 23% of fines issued through cameras and mobile system**

Interestingly, Bengaluru motorists check their challans about 4.12 times per month, ranking second after Chennai in active monitoring. The city also leads the nation in digital violations, with 23% of fines issued through cameras and mobile systems. However, Chennai shows greater diligence in fine payments, with drivers reviewing penalties at least five times a month.

Bengaluru drivers accumulate most pending challans

Helmet rule breaches and other unsafe driving habits remain alarmingly common in Bengaluru, contributing to its top rank. Around 11% of its vehicle users are repeat offenders, compared with 8% in Chennai, 6% in New Delhi, 5% in Mumbai, and 3% in Pune.

## Cabinet reshuffle murmurs grow loud

Political activity in Karnataka is gaining momentum following the Bihar elections, fuelling speculation over a possible cabinet reshuffle. Reports indicate that at least 12 current ministers could be dropped, with portfolios redistributed among other party members. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is closely monitoring the proposal, awaiting final approval from senior leaders before taking action.

Supporters of the CM have long advocated a reshuffle as the government completes two and a half years in office, citing the need to evaluate ministerial performance. Preliminary consultations with top leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, had been on hold due to Bihar election commitments. Following a recent phone discussion with AICC General Secretary KC Venugopal, the party is reportedly preparing to finalise the reshuffle soon, possibly after the Bihar results are settled.

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar said he has no official information, while Home Minister G Parameshwara noted that no one can block a decision by the high command. With two vacancies and potential exits of 12 ministers, up to 14 new appointments are possible, guided by performance, regional balance, and social justice considerations. **-BMB**

## CC, OC compliance pending across city

Bengaluru and several parts of Karnataka continue facing challenges as buildings lack Completion Certificates (CC) and Occupancy Certificates (OC), essential for water and electricity connections. On Thursday, the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah discussed a proposed legal amendment under the draft Karnataka Buildings Regulation Violation Regularisation Ordinance to address these issues. However, after extensive deliberations, the decision was deferred for further review and detailed examination.

The delay leaves thousands of residents across Greater Bengaluru unable to secure basic utilities due to missing documentation. The Cabinet noted that while Supreme Court guidelines are clear, technical and legal factors require careful assessment to prevent future judicial complications. CM Siddaramaiah emphasised another review with legal experts to ensure the ordinance or amendment is legally robust and in public interest.

Earlier, a preliminary meeting explored a one-time framework to regularise such buildings, but no final decision has been made. Devi K, a Bengalurean, said, "This postponement underlines the ongoing frustration for property owners and residents caught between compliance and access to essential services." **-BMB**

## Forest land allocation under scrutiny

Bengaluru North taluk's Machohalli has come under administrative scrutiny after it emerged that 78 acres of forest department land, out of 81 surveyed acres, had been approved for allocation to various organisations. The issue was discussed during Thursday's cabinet meeting, where it was decided that the forest department would submit a proposal to reclaim the land under its custody. Officials said additional technical details are required before recovery begins. The forest and revenue departments have been directed to conduct a joint survey and submit a detailed report. The findings will be presented in the next cabinet meeting to ensure proper management of government land and prevent unauthorised allocations. **-BMB**

# Bank manager dies of suspected cardiac arrest inside pub washroom

A 31-year-old private bank manager was found dead inside the ladies' washroom of a pub located in Ideal Homes Layout under Rajarajeshwari Nagar police station limits late Thursday night. Police suspect that he suffered a cardiac arrest.

The deceased has been identified as Megharaj, a resident of Ullal Main Road, who hails from Maddur in Mandya district. He is survived by his wife and a six-year-old daughter.

According to police, Megharaj had gone to the pub with three of his friends for a party. Around 12.30 am, after settling the bill, his friends stepped outside while Megharaj went to use the washroom. It is suspected that he accidentally entered the ladies' washroom possibly because the gents' washroom was occupied. When he did not return for a long time, his friends began searching for him and alerted the pub management.

Upon checking the CCTV footage, staff discovered that he had entered the ladies' washroom. They broke open the door and found him lying unconscious inside. Megharaj was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead.

Preliminary investigations revealed that Megharaj had blockages in his heart and may have suffered a cardiac arrest. Based on a complaint by his brother, Vinay, a case of unnatural death has been registered. Police have recorded the statements of his friends and pub staff, and the CCTV footage has been analysed. The exact cause of death will be confirmed after receiving the post-mortem and forensic (FSL) reports.

—BMB

# Mother, 2 kids found dead in their home

A 27-year-old woman and her two young children were found dead at their residence in Bagalakunte on Wednesday around 7 pm. The woman allegedly ended her life and the children were found dead too.

The deceased have been identified as Vijayalakshmi (27), her daughter Vrinda (4), and son Bhuvan (1½ years old). According to police, Vijayalakshmi's husband, Ramesh, works at a shop in a mall. The police said that no suicide note was found at the scene.

However, family members of the deceased have lodged a complaint against Ramesh, alleging that Vijayalakshmi was subjected to mental and physical harassment, which may have driven her to take the extreme step.

Police have registered a case on Friday morning, based on the complaint and are investigating the matter.

—BMB

# Threats to Ramya: Darshan 'followers' get bail

The High Court has granted bail to five persons, reportedly followers of actor Darshan, who were arrested for allegedly sending obscene, abusive, and threatening messages to former Member of Parliament and actress Ramya through Instagram. The court also extended anticipatory bail to one more accused, identified as Vikas BA.

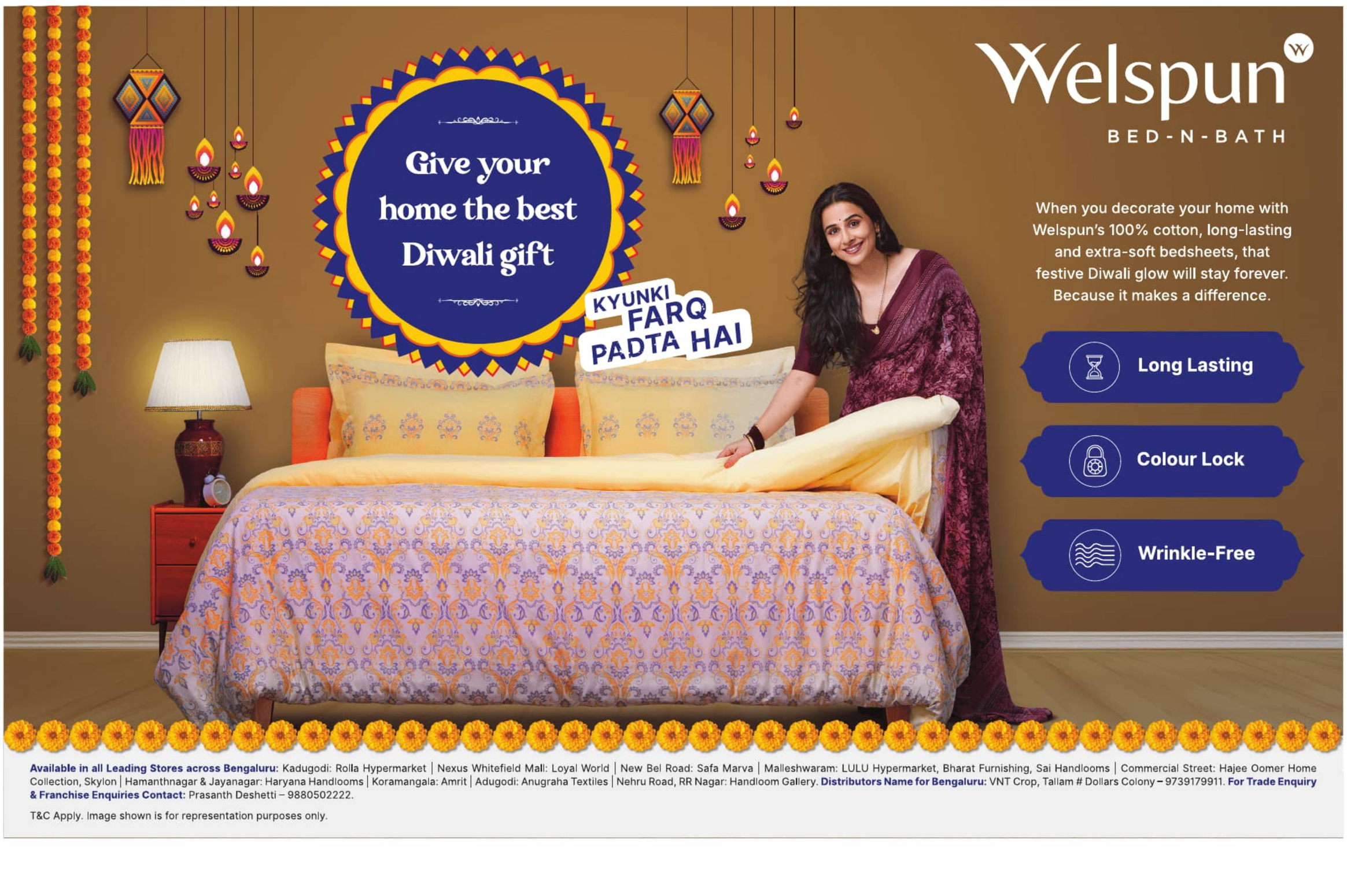
The case stemmed from a complaint filed by the actress on July 28, in which she detailed harassment from 43 Instagram accounts. Ramya alleged that many of these accounts belonged to fans of Darshan and that she received sexually coloured remarks and threats after she shared an article related to the Supreme Court's proceedings in the Renukaswamy murder case, where actor Darshan is the second accused and is currently in judicial custody.

Justice Shivashankar Amarannavar, presiding over the matter, granted bail to Pramodh K., Manjunath, Rajesh CY, Obanna T, and Chinmay Shetty. The court directed them to furnish a personal bond of ₹1,00,000 each, along with one surety for an equal amount, to the satisfaction of the jurisdictional court. Similarly, anticipatory bail was granted to Vikas on the same conditions, to be executed within two weeks.

The court observed that most of the alleged offences, including those under the Information Technology Act and the BNS, are bailable, with punishments of less than seven years. The only non-bailable offence, under Section 75(1)(iv) of the BNS, carries a maximum sentence of one year for making sexually coloured remarks. The High Court noted that the accused allegedly made these remarks using their Instagram accounts, and their mobile phones have been seized and sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) for examination.

Since the charge sheet has been filed, the court held custodial interrogation of the accused was no longer necessary. Justice Amarannavar also took note that all the accused were between 18 and 25 years of age and thus granted them bail.

—BMB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# BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

## STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

### CELESTIAL BEAUTY

The city witnessed a breathtaking spectacle as the year's first Super Moon illuminated the sky, drawing stargazers and photographers out to capture its luminous beauty

The picture was clicked by reader **Vijita Asher**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

# CSR dreams go dry in garden city

## GBA's ambitious "Our Bengaluru, My Contribution" scheme fails to gain traction as companies show little interest in adopting public spaces

Despite ambitious plans by the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) to use Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds for the maintenance and development of parks, lakes and urban junctions, the initiative has largely failed to gain traction. Of the 1,280 parks across the five municipal zones, only 12 parks and 48 junctions have been adopted by corporations, highlighting widespread corporate disinterest. This has left many of the city's green spaces and water bodies poorly maintained, frustrating residents who rely on these amenities for recreation and environmental relief.

The "Our Bengaluru, My Contribution" scheme was designed to engage citizens and corporate entities alike, offering companies the opportunity to adopt public assets for upkeep and enhancement using CSR funds. Consultants hired by the GBA conducted meetings with top executives of major firms, providing data about each park, lake and junction to encourage adoption. Advertisements and campaigns were also rolled out. Yet, despite initial interest, most companies ultimately declined to take responsibility. Officials admit that while the scheme has not entirely stalled, corporate support has been too limited to achieve the ambitious goals set at launch.

**Limited corporate support hampers Bengaluru's CSR park scheme, leaving public spaces in disrepair and residents seeking better maintenance**

Even the few participating companies have contributed unevenly, providing benches, dustbins and minor landscaping, but rarely engaging in comprehensive development or long-term maintenance. According to GBA officials from the horticulture division, while these contributions are helpful, they fall far short of addressing the city's widespread need for properly maintained parks and water bodies.

The financial burden on the GBA remains significant. Small parks require ₹1.5–2 lakh per month, while larger parks can cost up to ₹30 lakh annually. Despite these investments, limited corporate adoption means much responsibility still falls on government agencies, which struggle to keep up. Residents note that unmaintained parks and neglected lakes affect recreation and environmental quality and reflect poorly on the city's governance.

"Bengaluru, home to thousands of corporations and extensive government-provided infrastructure, was expected to leverage CSR to create a sustainable maintenance model for public spaces. However, the reality is starkly different. The mismatch between ambition and execution has slowed progress and left public spaces inadequately managed," said an official. Officials continue to seek ways to attract more companies and maximise CSR funding, but for now, the city's parks and lakes remain largely neglected, highlighting the challenges of integrating corporate support into urban development. **— BMB**

**Bengaluru's green spaces sink in neglect as corporate support for upkeep remains minimal**

## DID YOU KNOW?

Astronomers have detected a rogue planet, Cha 1107-7626, around 620 light-years from Earth. Unlike most planets, it does not orbit a star. It has a mass five to ten times greater than Jupiter and was observed during a powerful burst of growth at the centre of a disc of gas and dust, forming much like a young star, as it devoured surrounding material at an unprecedented rate. At its peak in August, it consumed six billion tonnes of material per second, about eight times faster than just a few months earlier. "The outburst we detected is extraordinary," said astronomer Víctor Almendros-Abad of the INAF Astronomical Observatory of Palermo, Italy, lead author of the study published in the Astrophysical Journal Letters. The rogue planet is around one to two million years old and appears to be in its final stages of formation. Researchers believe it has strong magnetic fields funneling material inward, a phenomenon previously observed only in stars. Rogue planets, or free-floating planetary-mass objects, typically have a mass a few times greater than Jupiter. "This discovery shows these objects can be dynamic like stars in their nascent stages," said Belinda Damian, co-author and astronomer at the University of St Andrews, Scotland. **— Reuters**

**GET HEARD WITH MIRROR**

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Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

## BUST FAKE NEWS WITH BANGALORE MIRROR

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# Conspiracy theory around Israel lobby in Kirk killing busted

**Claim:** Conservative commentator Candace Owens shared private messages suggesting that Charlie Kirk, two days before his death, was distressed over pressure from Jewish donors regarding his stance on Israel. Some have implied this may have influenced his death.
**Fact:** Misleading. While the messages shared by Owens are reportedly authentic and confirm Kirk expressed concerns about donor pressure, there is no verified evidence linking these messages to the circumstances of his death. Authorities attribute the tragic incident to a lone assailant, Tyler Robinson.

Right-wing commentator Candace Owens has promoted several conspiracy theories in the Charlie Kirk assassination case, repeatedly suggesting the Israel lobby played a role. In a YouTube video, she alleged that Kirk, a Trump ally, was bullied by Jewish donors two days before his death and shared screenshots of his private group chat messages. After Owens revealed these messages, Turning Point USA responded.

### Charlie Kirk bullied by Jewish donors?

Owens' show exposed chats where Kirk wrote about losing a major Jewish donor. "Just lost another huge Jewish donor. $2 million a year because we won't cancer Tucker," he said. "Jewish donors play into all the stereotypes. I cannot and will not be bullied like this. Leaving me no choice but to leave the pro-Israel cause."

Turning Point USA spokesman Andrew Kolvet confirmed the screenshot's authenticity, saying he was "glad the truth is out." Speaking on the Charlie Kirk Show, he added the image came from a message he had shared: "That was a text grab… so it is authentic."

### Israel's involvement in Kirk's death

Owens claims Kirk faced pressure from the Israel lobby, which she suggests influenced his death. Funding reportedly dropped after he hosted guests critical of Israel and shared messages indicating he might leave the pro-Israel cause. Pressure intensified after journalist Tucker Carlson, known for criticism of Israel, appeared on Kirk's programme. On 17 September, Carlson said Kirk had often expressed negative views about Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, believing he used the United States to fight wars serving Israel's interests. Carlson claimed a small, intense group tormented Kirk until his death.

### Turning Point USA's response

Kolvet confirmed the chats occurred but said he had not published them, instead informing officials. He argued it was unfair to claim Turning Point did not care about Kirk's death.

Kirk also wrote to Netanyahu warning that Israel was "losing the information war" and facing declining support. He proposed rapid response teams, an "Israel Truth Network," and strategic messaging to counter anti-Israel sentiment, outlining seven suggestions including rapid response teams on X, cultivating pro-Israel experts, and creating a repository of reliable information.

Candace Owens has faced criticism for using the tragedy as a talking point, but she insists she will not be silenced by the whitewashed narratives surrounding Kirk's assassination. **— ET Online**

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# LET'S NOT DRINK TO THAT

## Women, kids often pay a heavy price when men drink

Globally, up to one in three women who live with a male partner report he is a heavy drinker. Evidence shows men's drinking increases the severity and frequency of violence towards women and harms to children.

Yet worldwide, most policies to address gender violence still fail to consider the significant role alcohol plays.

Our new research, published last week, reviewed and analysed the evidence in three major international reviews about men's drinking.

We wanted to understand the range of impacts that men's heavy drinking has on women and children worldwide. We also examined whether alcohol policies and interventions specifically address these harms.

Our study shows the impact on women and children is profound – but the harms are often understudied and overlooked. Here's what we found.

### Women carry the burden

We already knew that men's heavy drinking exacerbates physical violence, leads to more intimate partner violence experienced by women, and to more severe injuries.

However, our new research reveals a much wider range of harms that occur to women when men drink heavily. Heavy drinking can include binge drinking and alcohol dependence.

The psychological impact on women can be profound. We found men's heavy drinking can contribute to controlling behaviour and irrational sexual jealousy towards partners, sexual aggression and coercion, and emotional abuse that includes humiliating or insulting the partner.

Women also reported alcohol-related harms that are not widely studied or understood. These included women experiencing social isolation and economic abuse, where household resources are diverted to the man's drinking.

Financial problems for the family can have serious flow-on effects. For example, buying alcohol may not leave enough money for essentials such as food and clothing. Money issues can trigger conflicts which then escalate into violence towards women.

Men's alcohol use can also lead to missed work or unemployment. This can reduce the family income and put more pressure on women to work extra hours, often alongside existing caregiving duties. They may then be at risk of other harmful situations or exploitation, such as being forced into sex work – reported by some women in lower income countries.

### Children become more unsafe

The impact of men's heavy drinking on children has been even less well studied than its effect on women.

Yet our research shows when men drink heavily, their children are more likely to experience neglect, poor mental health, disrupted schooling and family instability – all of which negatively affects their development.

Men who drink heavily often prioritise alcohol over their children's needs and this can create dysfunctional family environments. Their children are also more likely to become the targets of violence and witness violence against others.

As a consequence of these sometimes unstable and unsafe family environments, children may often feel less emotionally close to fathers who drink heavily. Evidence shows fathers who drink heavily are less involved in parenting.

### A gap in policy

Alcohol research and policy, and general policies, seldom target the diverse impacts of men's drinking on women and children.

Our study highlights an uncomfortable reality: to prevent violence against women and children, we also need to focus on men's drinking – and the wider social and economic inequalities that contribute to harms to women and children.

We need interventions that explicitly target the social norms around masculinity, including those that encourage and normalise heavy drinking and reward aggression.

But we also need to address other societal factors that can amplify problematic aspects of men's heavy drinking – including men's histories of trauma, mental health and social disadvantage – without diminishing their individual accountability.

Strategies to reduce harmful alcohol use should be integrated with broader gender-based violence prevention. For instance, by combining interventions for men who are in treatment for alcohol problems and use violence, and reducing alcohol consumption at home, for example, by limiting home delivery.

Men's heavy drinking can be seriously harmful for women and children. This means we can't address the epidemic of men's violence in our community without tackling alcohol use head on.

*(By Anne-Marie Laslett and Cassandra Hopkins, La Trobe University; Ingrid Wilson, Singapore Institute of Technology, The Conversation)*

## MIRRORLIGHTS

### Scientists find new type of diabetes in babies under 6 months

An international team of scientists has discovered a new type of diabetes in babies, under six months of age.

Some babies develop diabetes before the age of six months. In over 85 per cent of cases, this is due to a genetic mutation in their DNA.

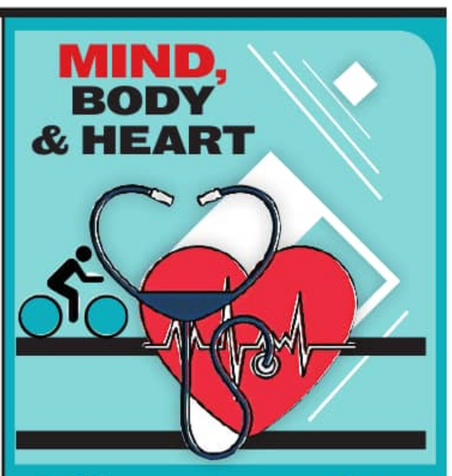
Using advanced DNA sequencing technologies and a new model of stem cell research the team from the University of Exeter in the UK and Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) identified mutations in the TMEM167A gene -- responsible for a rare form of neonatal diabetes.

They found that in six children with additional neurological disorders such as epilepsy and microcephaly there was alterations in the TMEM167A gene.

"Finding the DNA changes that cause diabetes in babies gives us a unique way to find the genes that play key roles in making and secreting insulin. In this collaborative study, the finding of specific DNA changes causing this rare type of diabetes in six children, led us to clarifying the function of a little-known gene, TMEM167A, showing how it plays a key role in insulin secretion," said Dr. Elisa de Franco, at the University of Exeter.

To understand its role, the team used stem cells differentiated into pancreatic beta cells and gene-editing techniques (CRISPR). They found that when the TMEM167A gene is altered, insulin-producing cells can no longer fulfill their role. They then activate stress mechanisms that lead to their death.

"The ability to generate insulin-producing cells from stem cells has enabled us to study what is dysfunctional in the beta cells of patients with rare forms as well as other types of diabetes. This is an extraordinary model for studying disease mechanisms and testing treatments," said Professor Miriam Cnop, researcher at ULB. —IANS




## All you need to know about...

*Fibre boost in meals*

**1. Flaxseed Powder**
Flaxseeds are small in size, yet they are nutritional. Simply add 1-2 teaspoons of finely ground flaxseeds into your regular wheat flour while making rotis or parathas; this can add fibre content to your meal.

**2. Oats in Idli**
Oats can elevate traditional South Indian breakfast staples like idli and dosa. Blending rolled oats into your usual rice and urad dal batter will add a boost of fibre and flavor with a taste of fermented batter.

**3. Chia Seeds**
Chia seeds carry a nutritious benefit; combining them with Indian sides like curd-based raita will make it highly beneficial and effective and the best way to boost fibre intake. Before adding them, it's best to soak chia seeds for about 10 minutes.

**4. Psyllium Husk**
Psyllium husk, commonly known as Isabgol, has been a trusted remedy for digestive health for generations. They are soluble fibre, just stirring a spoonful of psyllium husk into warm, freshly cooked dal right before serving is all it takes to transform a regular bowl of lentils into a fibre rich, gut-friendly dish.

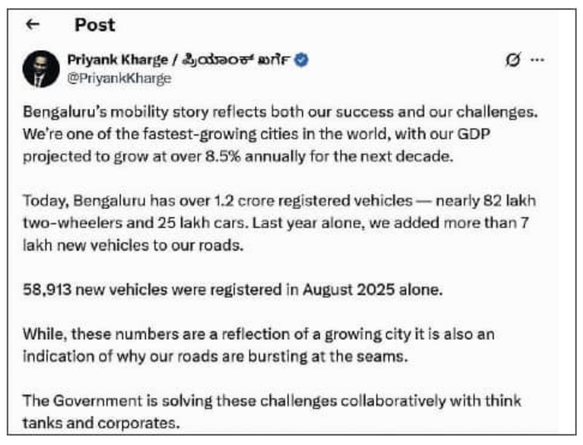
**5. Loaded Veggies**
Adding grated, finely chopped, or even lightly sautéed vegetables such as carrots, bottle gourd, spinach, beans, or pumpkin into your gravies can completely transform the dish nutritionally. These vegetables will add fibre and natural sweetness.

**7. Brown Rice or Millets**
Switching white rice to brown rice or more nutritious millets like foxtail, barnyard, or little millet is one of the simplest and most effective ways to boost fibre in your daily diet. Unlike polished white rice, these grains retain their bran and germ layers, which carry significantly more fibre, vitamins, and minerals.

—Femina

# SOCIALTATTLE

## THAT WENT VIRAL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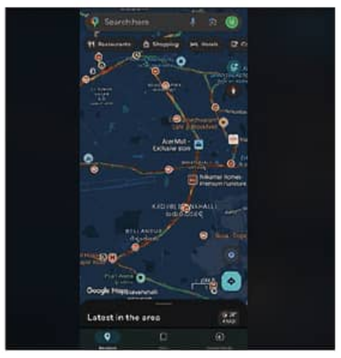
Bengaluru's mobility story reflects both our success and our challenges. We're one of the fastest-growing cities in the world, with our GDP projected to grow at over 8.5% annually for the next decade.
Today, Bengaluru has over 1.2 crore registered vehicles — nearly 82 lakh two-wheelers and 25 lakh cars. Last year alone, we added more than 7 lakh new vehicles to our roads.
58,913 new vehicles were registered in August 2025 alone.
While, these numbers are a reflection of a growing city it is also an indication of why our roads are bursting at the seams.
The Government is solving these challenges collaboratively with think tanks and corporates.

Karnataka Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Priyank Kharge defended the city's gridlock, with a post on Thursday: Bengaluru's infamous traffic jams are an outcome of its rapid economic and infrastructural expansion, portraying the congestion as both a mark of progress and a pressing challenge.
https://x.com/PriyankKharge/status/1976539684185747552?t=o-HBu6xFtVpOsT4P1CVdFQ&s=08



2 But commuters not convinced. Peak-hour paralysis: Bengaluru commuters share viral posts highlighting severe traffic congestion and frequent accident alerts across key routes.
Link: https://www.reddit.com/r/Bengaluru/s/4cJM0kGfjd

3 A post that appreciates Bengaluru's ever-pleasant weather, which everybody can connect with.

Jeenal Shah @Jeeen04 · Oct 9
The only reason to not leave Bengaluru is the way its weather touche
all day all night 24*7, literally

compu4n6 @compu4n6 · Oct 8
Hackers steal the key - Bangalore Mirror ift.tt/lc4Jyxf #computerforensics
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## BANGALORE MIRROR TAGGED

Our story about hackers holding a private firm hostage was noticed: https://x.com/compu4n6/status/1975948601000894470

# IN HIGH COURT

## Police encounter: Govt asked to file report on probe

The Karnataka government has been directed to file a detailed status report on the investigation into the alleged police encounter that led to the death of Ritesh Kumar, a migrant labourer from Bihar, in Hubballi on April 13. Kumar had been accused of killing a five-year-old girl. Police claim he was shot while attempting to flee custody, sparking concern among rights groups and civil society organisations demanding an impartial probe.

The directive came during a public interest litigation filed by the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), Karnataka, which seeks a monitored investigation and accountability from the police personnel involved. The hearing was adjourned to November 14 for the State to submit the report.

Additional Government Advocate Niloufer Akbar informed the bench that the case had been transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for a thorough inquiry, proceeding under its supervision. PUCL counsel argued that the FIR was registered against Kumar, not the officers, describing it as a "non-starter FIR" undermining transparency and accountability in custodial deaths.

Earlier, directives mandated strict adherence to Supreme Court guidelines requiring independent investigation of all deaths from police action. The post-mortem was conducted by two doctors, videographed, and biological samples preserved for forensic analysis. After confirmation of compliance, permission was granted for burial.

The incident has highlighted concerns over alleged encounter killings in Karnataka and the importance of following judicial guidelines to ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability in police operations. The CID's investigation progress will be reviewed during the next hearing in November.- **BMB**

## Dismissal upheld, but disabled staffer to get Rs 4 lakh

The Karnataka High Court upheld the dismissal of G Mahesh, an employee of M/s Teknic Euchner Electronics Pvt Ltd., for misconduct after he filed a false police complaint against his senior officer, Kennedy. However, considering that Mahesh is differently abled and faces limited employment opportunities, the Court directed the company to pay him Rs 4 lakh as compensation.

The case arose on January 16, 2009, when Mahesh allegedly hit himself with a paperweight and later accused Kennedy of assault. Following the incident, he was suspended, and a chargesheet was issued citing misconduct, including lodging a false complaint and disrupting company proceedings. A domestic enquiry was abandoned midway due to Mahesh's interference, and the management later dismissed him. The Labour Court upheld the dismissal.

Before the High Court, Mahesh argued the enquiry was incomplete and the allegation of assault lacked proof. The company submitted that a police 'B' report concluded Mahesh had injured himself, which he did not challenge. Justice Ananth Ramanath Hegde noted that while some Labour Court reasoning lacked strong justification, the evidence supported that Mahesh filed a false complaint.

Upholding the dismissal, the Court ruled the misconduct justified termination but awarded Rs 4 lakh compensation due to humanitarian considerations, acknowledging the challenges differently abled individuals face in securing employment. The Court declined to remit the matter for fresh consideration, balancing legal compliance with equitable relief. **-BMB**

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# B'lureans find solace in living amidst farmland

From tech professionals to business owners, a growing number of Bengalureans are turning towards farmland investments — not just for profit, but for peace of mind. The concrete fatigue of city life, coupled with the longing for a closer connection to nature, is driving this emerging 'back-to-roots' trend around Bengaluru's outskirts. For many urban residents, the idea of owning a few acres of green land just an hour or two away from the city offers an escape from traffic, noise, and constant digital overload.

"People are no longer buying farmland merely as an asset — they are buying experiences," said Rohit Shetty, a real estate consultant specialising in eco-living projects near Kanakapura and Magadi. "After the pandemic, the desire to grow one's own food, spend weekends outdoors, and reconnect with nature has become a major motivation," he said.

## Shift from luxury to lifestyle

In a city where apartments have long been seen as the ultimate investment, farmlands are fast becoming the new luxury. Many developers now offer managed farmland communities — complete with water systems, organic farming assistance, and weekend cottages. "Urban professionals want to live sustainably, even if it's for a few days each month," said Asha Kumar, a realtor. "They come here to de-stress, plant vegetables, host family picnics, and breathe fresh air. It's therapy in its simplest form," said Kumar. The typical buyers range between 30 and 50 years old — mostly tech professionals, entrepreneurs, and retired citizens seeking mental peace over material comfort.

Many city residents are increasingly choosing farm living

## Wellness beyond wealth

Psychologists too note a significant wellbeing factor. "Urban stress levels are at an all-time high. Spending time in nature helps reduce anxiety and burnout," said Dr Suman Kumar, a Bengaluru-based psychologist. "Even short weekend visits to farmlands create a sense of balance that city life often takes away," said Dr Kumar. With rising demand, farmlands around Mysuru Road, Kanakapura, Devanahalli, and Chikkaballapur are witnessing steady appreciation.

–Prakash VL

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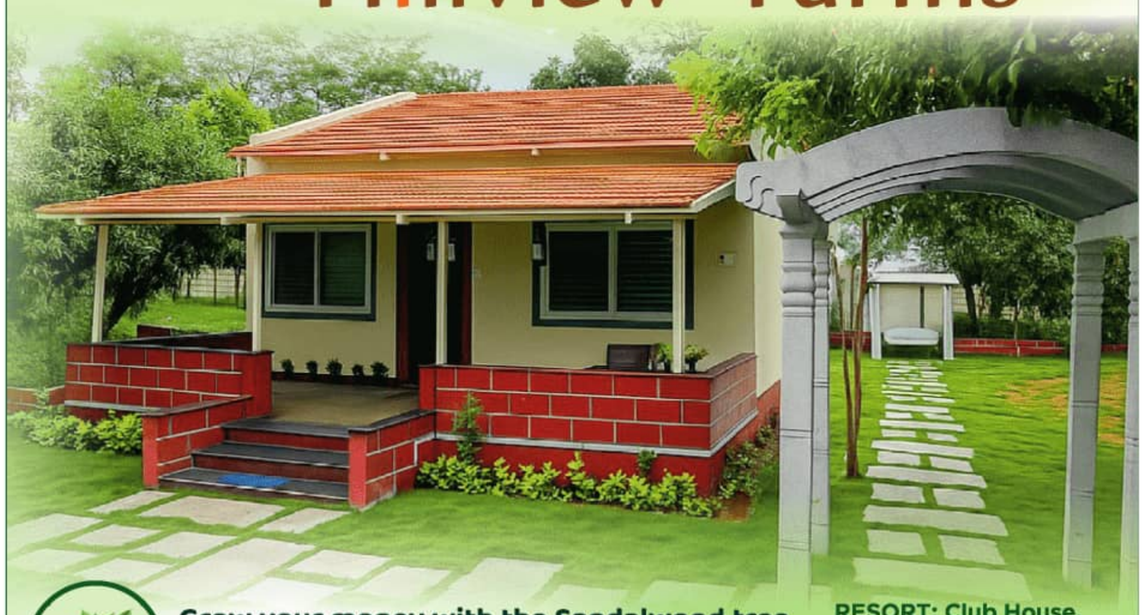

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# Real estate investments set to maintain momentum in 2025

Report predicts upward trajectory for equity inflows in India's real estate sector

**Asset-wise, land and development sites, as well as built-up office and retail properties, account for over 90% of total inflows during Q3 2025; Mumbai leads with 32% share of investments**

India's real estate sector is projected to close 2025 on a strong note, with equity inflows expected to sustain their upward trajectory, according to CBRE South Asia Pvt Ltd's latest report, Market Monitor Q3 2025 – Investments. The July–September quarter alone saw a 48 per cent year-on-year surge in investments, reaching USD 3.8 billion, driven primarily by capital deployment into land, development sites, and built-up office and retail assets.

For the first nine months of the year, total equity investments rose to USD 10.2 billion, up 14 per cent from USD 8.9 billion in the same period last year, reflecting the sector's resilience and broadening appeal among domestic and global investors.

Anshuman Magazine, Chairman & CEO, India, South-East Asia, Middle East & Africa, CBRE, said, "India's real estate sector is entering a phase of accelerated growth. Investor confidence remains high, and greenfield developments are expected to sustain strong momentum across residential, office, mixed-use, data centres, and industrial & logistics segments in the coming quarters."

Gaurav Kumar, Managing Director, Capital Markets and Land, CBRE India, added, "The investment landscape is becoming increasingly diversified, with capital flowing into both built-up and development assets. Indian sponsors, alongside global institutional investors, have emerged as major contributors. This combination of strong domestic capital and international participation will continue to drive growth in 2026 and beyond."

Asset-wise, land and development sites, as well as built-up office and retail properties, accounted for over 90 per cent of total inflows during Q3 2025. Among cities, Mumbai led with a 32 per cent share of investment, followed by Pune (18 per cent) and Bengaluru (16 per cent). Developers remained the primary drivers, contributing 45 per cent of equity inflows, while institutional investors accounted for approximately 33 per cent.

–BMB

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CREDAI BENGALURU

# Car, SUV, jeep crashes claimed 370 lives in 2023

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Delhi (truck 94, bus 34) and Gwalior (truck 15, bus 15), highlighting that the city's fatalities are concentrated among private vehicle commuters rather than commercial transport users.

The dominance of car/SUV deaths in Bengaluru points to several factors: high private vehicle ownership, congested arterial roads, reckless driving, and frequent short-distance trips in the IT and industrial corridors.

The low bus and truck deaths suggest that structured public and freight transport systems are relatively safer, but the rapid rise of personal vehicles is increasing the overall mortality.

Experts suggest that Bengaluru's high private-vehicle fatality rate underscores the need for stricter enforcement of traffic norms for cars and SUVs, better lane discipline, and enhanced pedestrian and two-wheeler safety measures. Urban planners also recommend expanding public transport infrastructure to reduce reliance on private vehicles, which are driving the bulk of road deaths in the city.

While Bengaluru's commercial vehicle deaths remain low, the dominance of private vehicle fatalities signals a structural urban safety challenge. Without effective interventions targeting private vehicle users, including driver awareness, speed control, and safer road design, Bengaluru's road fatality rates are likely to remain among the highest in the country.

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### CHANGE OF NAME

I George S, S/o Shahul Hameed, R/o No 1/3,1st A Cross, Padarayanapura, Bengaluru, Kamataka-560026, have changed my name to Mohammed Yaseen

I, Sashikala Dubey W/o Naveendra Mani R/o #40, Hennagara Post kachanai - kanahalli Jigani Anekal B'luru-560105 have changed my name to Shashikala Mani.

I, Pooja Sureka W/o Sandeep Kumar Sureka R/o 2nd floor, 1209/11/2, 12th Main road, 5th cross, Prakash nagar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore 560021 have changed my name to Puja Sureka for all purposes

I, Ramesh Bava Thulasiraman S/o Thulasiraman Bava Kesavan R/o 2A, New City Regency, Kithiganur, B'luru-560036, have changed my name to Ramesh Bhavan Thulasiraman.

I Mohammed Rashid Ismail Khan S/O, Rashid Khan R/o No 18/2 3rd Floor A Rmansion 2nd Cross, Pottery Town, Bengaluru - 560046 have changed my name to Ismail Khan.

I, MOHAMED FAISAL ABDUL SAMATH residing at # 35/2, 6th Floor, Hutchins, St Thomas, Cooke Town, Bangalore- 560084. . I have changed my name to MOHAMED FAISAL ABDUL SAMAD Vide affidavit dated 09/10/2025 sworn before notary. Chandrashekar Bengaluru

I P.MAGESWARI C/O BALASUBRAMANIAN.S born on10/05/1984 residing at Aditi padmashree apartment, B block 006 Ground floor Abbigere Main Road medarahalli, chikkabanavara post, Bangalore North Bangaluru 560090, have changed my name to MAGESWARI vide affidavit dated (05/09/2025) at Bangalore

I, Manjunath R S/o, Ravi V, residing at #2200, 12th Cross, Gundanjaneya Swamy Temple, Sanjeevini Nagar, Sahakaranagar, Bangalore-560092, have changed my name to Manjunatha R in further all official Purposes. Vide Affidavit dated: 10.10.2025 Sworn Before Notary K C Shashikala Bangalore.

I Renukaradhya I S/O, Indresh R/o No 6, Gk Mode, 2nd Cross, Sapthagiri Layout, Subramanyapura Post, Bengalur-560061 have changed my name to Renukaradhya.

I, Kumadwathi Hemanth W/o Hemanthkumar B L, R/o No.37-B, Anand Mansions, Hessaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Rajanakunte post, Bengaluru 560064, changed my name to Kumudwathi S for all purposes.

I, Chottanda Appachu Daksh Subbaiah S/o Appachu C K R/o D No. 136, 4th Cross, Mathru Layout, GKVK Post, Bengaluru-560065, changed my name to Daksh Subbaiah for all purposes.

I, BHAVANI KIRANMAYI CHERUVU, Residing at No 36/2, No 108, Suraksha Marvella, Nyanappanahalli Road, Saraswathipuram, Bangalore -560076, Have changed my name to BHAVANI KIRANMAYI KUPPA, vide affidavit dated 10/10/2025 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, TANZEELA MOHAMMED SAGIR residing at # 35/2, 6th Floor, Hutchins, St Thomas, Cooke Town, Bangalore- 560084. I have changed my name to TANZEELA MOHAMMED GUFRAN SHAIKH. Vide affidavit dated 09/10/2025 sworn before notary. Chandrashekar Bengaluru

I Aslam pasha S/o Nazeer R/o Saras Mansion, Flat No 401,4th Floor, 6th Cross, 2nd Right Road, MCECHS Layout, Jakkur Main Road, Bangalore 560077 have changed my name to Aslam pasha N

I, Vijayakumar Barade Natarajan S/o Natarajan Anand Barade R/o Villa No 124, Concorde Napa Valley, Kanakapura Road, Taralu, Bangalore 560082 have changed my name to Vijay Barade.

I, Nithya Monniyan Badrinarayana W/o Ramesh Bhavan Thulasiraman R/o 2A, New City Regency, Kithiganur, B'luru-560036, have changed my name to Nithya Bhavan Ramesh.

I Divya D/O, Kali Kant Mishra R/o J-1101, Sumadhura Eden Garden Apt., Doddabanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East, Kadugodi, Whitefield, Bengaluru 560067 (near Atal Bihari Botanical Garden) have changed my name to Divya Mishra.

I, Ramandeep Kaur Aujla W/O Gagandeep Singh R/O E2403, SH35, Off Marathahalli, Sarjapur road, Whitefield, opposite of Sahara Hospital, Devasthanagalu, Varthur, Bangalore-560087 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known Ramandeep Kaur

I, Pallab Biswanath S/O Biswanath Satikant Banerjee have changed my name to Pallab S/O Biswanath Banerjee mother Manju Banerjee and my surname is Banerjee.

I, LUTFARNESHA KHATUN D/o SEKH KUTUBUDDIN R/O BOMMANAHALLI KARNATAKA 560068 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM LUTFARNESHA KHATUN TO KHUSHBU MONDAL FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

I, Sandeep Sureka S/o Kedar Nath sureka R/o 2nd floor, 1209/11/2, 12th Main road, 5th cross,Prakash nagar,Rajajina - gar, Bangalore 560021 have changed my name to Sandeep Kumar Sureka for all purposes

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**# Salman mourns co-star**

Superstar Salman Khan, on the 10th of October, expressed grief over the sudden death of professional bodybuilder and his 'Tiger 3' co-star Varinder Singh Ghuman

## SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

### Trailer unveiled

The trailer of Chatushpada was unveiled at MMB Legacy recently. The movie, bankrolled by Roopa Bai and Krishnoji Rao and directed by Krishnoji Rao, features Milana Nagaraj, Jagan, Kiran Raj, and Shilpa.

Rao said the movie is about four people with different views and lifestyles. "The story is unique and entertaining," the director said.

He said the first copy of the movie is ready and arrangements are being made to release it within a few weeks. "It is my debut as a director. I assure the audiences that they will not go home disappointed after watching this movie at the theater," he said, adding that dialogues, written by Raghu Niduvalli, are punchy and meaningful.

Thanking director-cum-producer for giving him an opportunity to act in this movie, Jagan said the script of the movie is very interesting. "I play one of the four in the movie. The climax is what happens to the four young men," Jagan said.

### New kind of serial

Veteran character actor Kari Subbu is playing a key character in Sri Gandhada Gudi, a tele serial that has become popular. Kari Subbu is known for playing character roles in Kannada movies for more than three decades.

"I am making a comeback to mega tele serials after a gap of 13 years after Chalisuva Modegalu that was telecasted in 2012. I did not have much interest in acting in this tele serial but the producer insisted I act in it. The script is very good and different from the current mega serials that are dominated by female characters. This serial is dominated by five male characters," Kari Subbu said.

The serial – Sri Gandadha Gudi – is about a house without a woman. The family head, Nataraj, is an incorrigible drunkard and hardcore fan of Kannada matinee idol Dr Rajkumar. Nataraj names his four sons – Muthuraj, Satya Harishandra, Kanteerava, and Mayura – after Dr Rajkumar's movies. Nataraj becomes notorious in the locality while his sons feel embarrassed. At this juncture, a woman enters Nataraj's house. The serial is about whether the woman agrees to stay on at Nataraj's house.

# SHE'S IN NO MOOD TO BE PUSHED AROUND

## Wonder why when male superstars work for 8 hours, it never makes headlines: Deepika

Deepika Padukone has been in the news ever since her exit from Sandeep Reddy Vanga's 'Spirit' starring Prabhas. Reports suggested that Deepika had demanded an 8-hour shift amidst some other demands which led to her exit.

Deepika said during a chat with CNBC TV 18, "By virtue of being a woman, if that's coming across as being pushy or whatever, then so be it. But it is no secret that a lot of superstars, male superstars in the Indian film industry, have been working for 8 hours for years, and it's never made headlines."

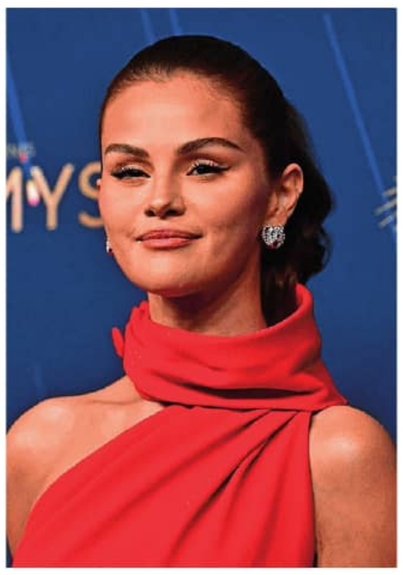
She added, "I don't want to take names now, but it's very commonly, publicly known about a lot of male actors who have been working for 8 hours for years. A lot of them work only 8 hours Monday to Friday; they do not work on weekends. I also know a lot of women now and newly turned mothers who have also started working eight hours. But that also surprisingly didn't make headlines. So I'm not sure about this myself."

When asked if she has to face the brunt of being someone who takes a stand against the tide, and how she remains unbothered, Deepika said she's always been like that. "I like to learn, and if that means doing things that have not been done before, I'm okay doing it. I'm okay being the first person. I'm okay making mistakes. I'm okay being abused at. I'm okay with all of that because I need to keep reinventing and pushing the boundaries."

She credited her upbringing and the 'athlete' mentality that comes from her father Prakash Padukone for making it easier for her to cut the noise. "One, my upbringing. Two, being an athlete, I've learnt how to cut out the noise. I can very easily do that," said Deepika. Deepika also added that motherhood is taking all her time at the moment and it's gratifying.

—ETimes

# Selena wants to be a mother 'someday'



Singer-actress Selena Gomez has talked about her desire to "one day" have children.

The actress had posted an Instagram Story celebrating her role on the Wizards of Waverly Place sequel series, Wizards Beyond Waverly Place.

"Alex Russo is a mommy," she wrote, referring to her character. "Hopefully one day that'll be me." She included a clip from her final episode on the series, reports people.com.

In the series' two-part finale, it was revealed that Alex is the mother of Billie Russo played by Janice LeAnn Brown.

After the episode aired, Gomez and Brown spoke about their on and off-screen bond.

"It was very emotional, especially for me and her after the table read," Brown, 15, said in an interview on Disney Channel's YouTube page.

"We were just puddles," Gomez said. Before the show's release, Gomez opened up about her connection to Alex Russo on the August 7 episode of Jake Shane's Therapuss podcast, calling the reboot a "new, refreshing take" on the series. She reflected on what it's been like returning to "an older version of Alex."

The character "ultimately shaped who I am, because I feel like I am Alex," Gomez said.

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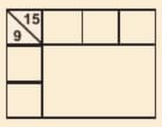
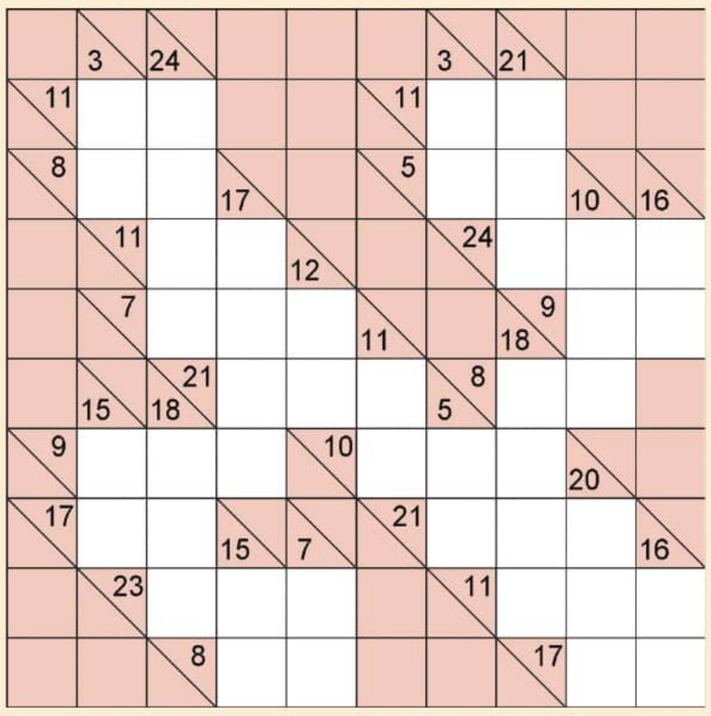
## Kakuro

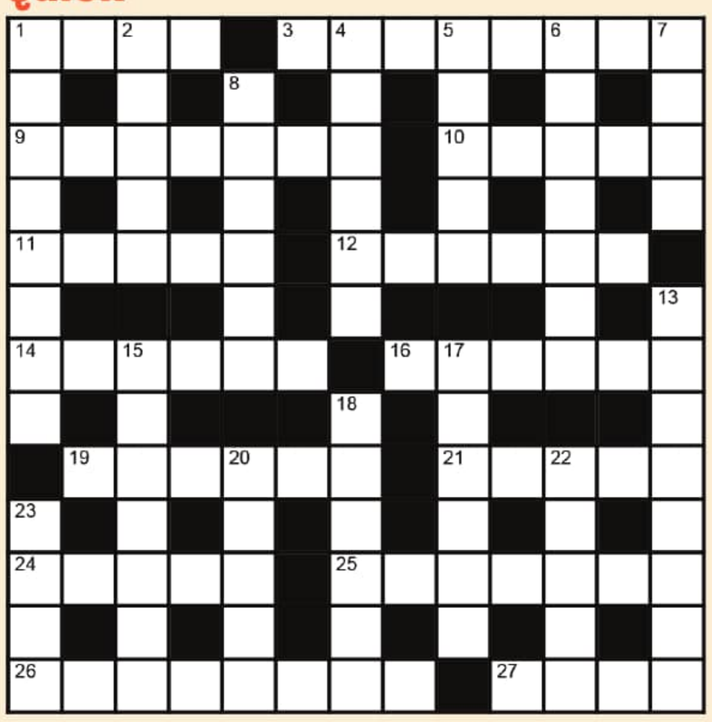
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

1 Do a secretary's job in the office? (4)
3 Wrong in opinion (8)
9 Plunder (7)
10 Listlessness or discontentment, boredom (5)
11 Nary a soul (2,3)
12 No balls and wides (6)
14 Tension (6)
16 Mogadishu native (6)
19 Grown-ups (6)
21 At the same level (5)
24 Allocated share (5)
25 Social and political equality (7)
26 Particular skill (8)
27 Exchange for money (4)

**DOWN**

1 Neatness (8)
2 Basil-based sauce (5)
4 Undernourished or starving (3-3)
5 Avian sound (5)
6 Official language of Karnataka (7)
7 Brad (4)
8 Lobbies (6)
13 Two-faced (8)
15 Soldier in British history (7)
17 __ __ show : a solo effort ? (3-3)
18 Belgian port (6)
20 Sprang (5)
22 Combine (5)
23 Water in Latin (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: E EQUALS Y**

KBJ PILJ EIS HAIR KBJ VJDD EIS AJJX KI DZE.

## Linemaro

A blind guy could find you because you heat up the room

## Mindchow

Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony

## Joke of the day

Do unto others, then run

## Loop

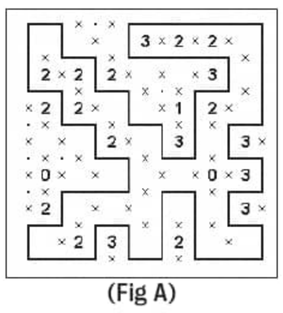
**Rules**

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

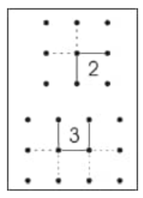
**How to begin:**

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

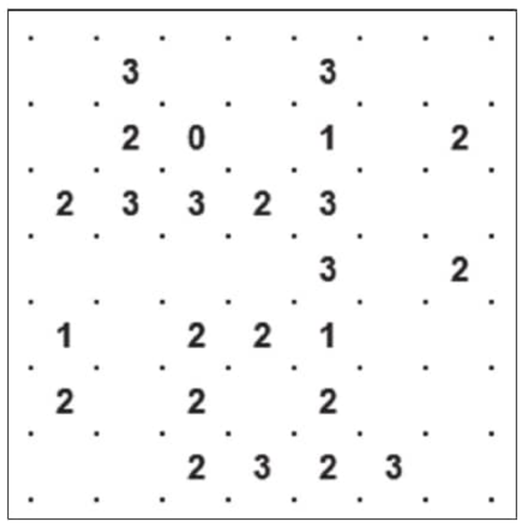
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



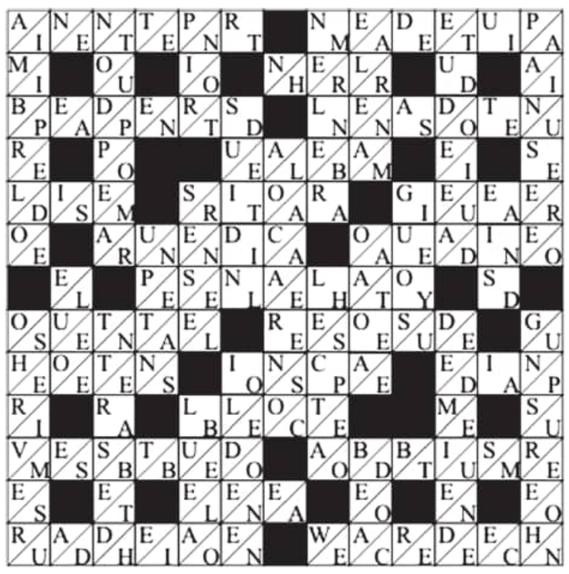
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | | | | |
| 7 | | | | |
| 8 | | | | |
| 9 | | M | | |

**ACROSS**

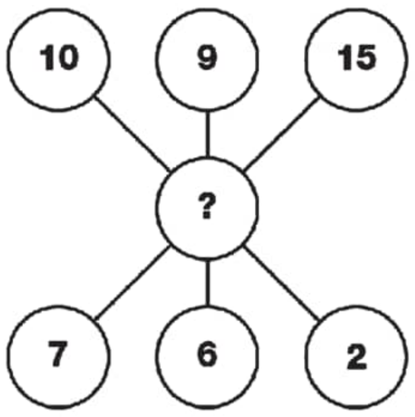
1 D puss; 6 Ate in; 7 A calk; 8 A ream; 9 UP MSP

**DOWN**

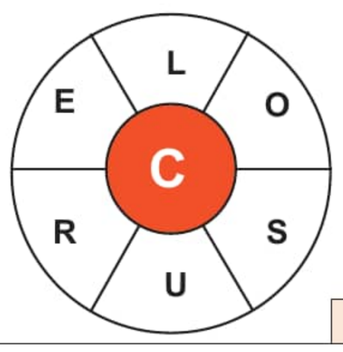
1 Tamps; 2 Pauli; 3 Namur; 4 Paced; 5 Asks E

## Mensapuzzle

What is missing from the middle circle?




## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

13 Average; 15 Good; 17 Outstanding

## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 7 | 1 | | 5 | 3 |
| | | 3 | 6 | | | 7 | 8 | |
| | 8 | | | | | | 1 | 9 |
| | | | | | 3 | 1 | | 2 |
| | | | | 8 | | | | |
| 6 | | 2 | 5 | | | | | |
| 1 | 4 | | | | | | 6 | |
| | 6 | 5 | | | 4 | 8 | | |
| 9 | 3 | | 1 | 5 | | | | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

**Easy**

= 21

4 5 6 6

**Medium**

= 24

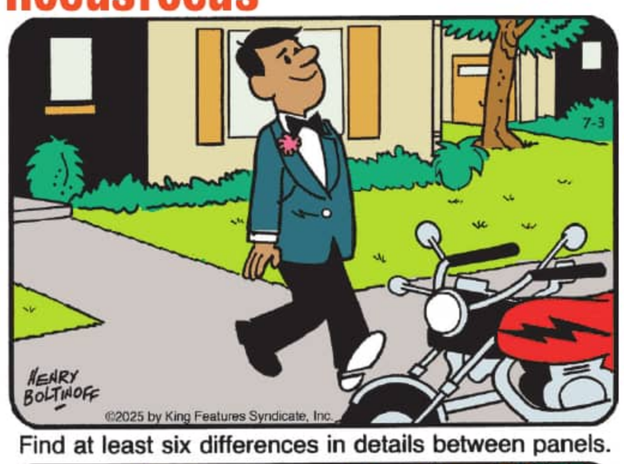
2 3 7 8

**Hard**

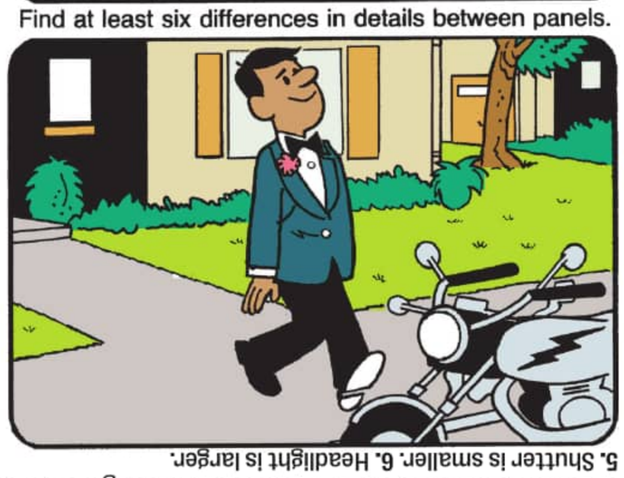
= 10

1 5 7 2

## Hocusfocus




Find at least six differences in details between panels.



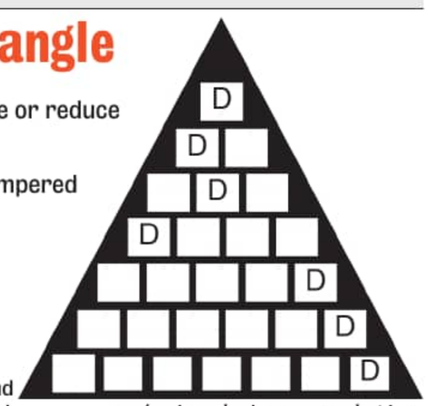
**Differences:** 1. Arm is longer. 2. Lightning bolt is different. 3. Button is added to shirt. 4. Leaves are missing from tree. 5. Shutter is smaller. 6. Headlight is larger.

## Riddler

My first is in wield, sever bones and marrow. My second is in blade, forged in cold steel. My third is in arbalest, and also in arrows. My fourth is in power, plunged through a shield. My fifth is in honor, and also in vows My last will put an end to it all. What am I?

## Alpha triangle

1 Five hundred
2 Prefix for remove or reduce
3 Piece of poetry
4 Accomplished
5 Moderated or tempered
6 Made amends
7 Wrote down

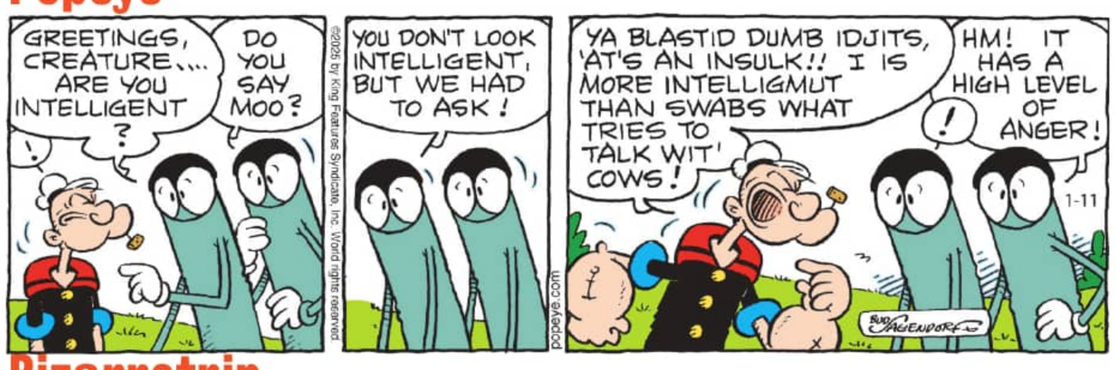



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.


DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

# COMICS

## Popeye


GREETINGS, CREATURE.... ARE YOU INTELLIGENT?
DO YOU SAY MOO?
YOU DON'T LOOK INTELLIGENT, BUT WE HAD TO ASK!
YA BLASTID DUMB IDJITS, 'AT'S AN INSULK!! I IS MORE INTELLIGMUT THAN SWABS WHAT TRIES TO TALK WIT' COWS!
HM! IT HAS A HIGH LEVEL OF ANGER!
1-11
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popeye.com
BOB ALGENDORF

## Bizarrotrip

Wayno & Piraro 7-3-25
BIZARRO.COM
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Dist. by King Features
How do I look? I didn't want to seem too eager on a first date, so I dressed to the eights.

## Diamond Lil

## Hart of the city

## Crankshaft

WE MET WHEN YOU CAME OUT TO INTERVIEW ME ABOUT MY OHIOANA BOOK AWARD... AND I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D BE WILLING TO DO A VOICE-OVER FOR MY VIDEO?
THAT'S FINE, LILLIAN...
BUT COULD WE TALK WHEN I'M NOT ON THE AIR?
LIVE NEWS
7-3
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

## Mutts

# WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

## If it's your birthday today

Leadership and confidence shape your year. Professional growth accelerates as others respect your clarity and boldness. New opportunities emerge when you take initiative. Relationships strengthen through honest dialogue. Financial stability improves as responsibility deepens. Travel or fresh learning broadens horizons. Your resilience inspires others.

### Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Dreams are not escaping they reveal missing puzzle pieces. Stop peoplepleasing and chasing. Embrace your masterpiece as is. Gracefully step back, release pressure, and commit wholeheartedly to your desires.

### Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Patience is your power, Leo. Just as bread needs time to rise, your dreams need space. Release pressure, stop checking, and trust divine timing. Your order's confirmed; allow unfolding.

### Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Creativity translates manifestation into form. Beyond vision boards, take detached, practical steps. Trust your abilities while acknowledging vulnerability. Solid foundations emerge from combining goals with acceptance of current reality.

### Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Love yourself deeply. Allow others to see your authentic self. Angels confirm you're supported and understood. Release doubt, smash fears, and trust your wings. Self-belief brings freedom, flight, and empowerment.

### Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

When force fails, send love instead. Harshness reflects inward first. Gently share wisdom, accept yourself, soften judgements, and loosen your grip. Love flows freely when patience anchors your actions.

### Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Service impacts deeply, even if unnoticed. Appreciate your journey's influence. Shift perspective from victim hood to marvel. Release judgement, and embrace worth. Recognition and protection arrive today.

### Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Friendships may feel strained; healing requires acceptance. Sometimes love means embracing flaws, sometimes it's an apology. Express feelings healthily, trust divine timing, and allow cosmic magic to mend relationships and bonds.

### Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Balance empathy with boundaries, Libra. Compassion doesn't equal martyrdom. Silent blessings often heal more than sacrifice. Honour sensitivity, respect emotions, and radiate higher frequency by choosing selfrespect and gentleness.

### Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Sunlight outside the cave signals vast opportunities. Let yourself be visible. Manifest desires by stepping into the spotlight, following your unique path, and trusting openness. Allow the world to discover your brilliance.

### Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Recurring patterns spark questions are choices guided by love or judgement? Zoom out, Cancer. Remember divine protection surrounds you. Answers already exist within; trust angels to illuminate clarity and solutions.

### Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Pause at your oasis. Self-care isn't elaborate, it's mindful pauses. Enjoy coffee, brush your hair consciously, walk intentionally. Small rituals restore vitality. Purpose is living joyfully, not racing endlessly forward.

### Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Personal and professional joy align today. Wake energised, carrying momentum through magical interactions. Supportive environments and harmonious relationships enhance life's true luxuries-love, encouragement, and happiness.

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# SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**

$(9^2)^{1/2}+3^{-1}$
$9+3^{-1} = 3^{2+1} = 3^3 = 27$

**RIDDLER**

Weapon

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I | N | T | E | N | T | | M | A | D | E | U | P | | |
| M | O | | O | | H | E | R | | D | | I | | | |
| P | A | P | E | R | S | | L | E | A | D | E | N | | |
| E | | P | | E | L | B | A | | I | | E | | | |
| D | I | E | | S | T | O | A | | G | E | A | R | | |
| E | | R | U | N | I | C | | A | U | D | I | O | | |
| L | | P | E | N | A | L | T | Y | | D | | | | |
| S | E | T | A | E | | R | E | S | E | | U | | | |
| H | O | E | S | | O | N | C | | E | | D | A | N | |
| I | | A | | B | L | O | T | | | M | | S | | |
| V | E | S | T | E | D | | O | B | T | U | S | E | | |
| A | L | | I | | | G | | | | | | | | |
| R | A | D | I | A | N | | W | A | R | D | E | N | | |

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | P | U | D | S |
| T | I | N | E | A |
| A | L | A | C | K |
| M | A | R | A | E |
| P | U | M | P | S |

**QUOTE UNCODE**

The more you know the less you need to say.

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | Y | P | E | | M | I | S | T | A | K | E | N | | |
| I | | E | | F | | L | | W | | A | | A | | |
| D | E | S | P | O | I | L | | E | N | N | U | I | | |
| I | | T | | Y | | F | | E | | N | | L | | |
| N | O | O | N | E | | E | X | T | R | A | S | | | |
| | | N | | R | | | D | | | D | | | | |
| E | | S | T | R | E | S | S | | S | O | M | A | L | I |
| S | | | E | | | O | | N | | | | S | | |
| A | D | U | L | T | S | | T | | M | | E | Q | U | A | L |
| | | A | | C | | E | | T | | M | | N | | O |
| Q | U | O | T | A | | E | G | A | L | I | T | Y | | |
| U | | A | | P | | N | | T | | | | A | | |
| A | P | T | I | T | U | D | E | | S | E | L | L | | |

**BULL'S EYE**

close, closer, CLOSURE, clue, colleus, core, course, cruel, cure, curl, curse, ecru, lucre, score, scour, source, ulcer

**MENSA PUZZLE**

2. Split the diagram into 3 vertical columns. The sum of the numbers in each column equal 17.

**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| 2 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 5 |
| 6 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 6 |
| 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| 7 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| 5 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 3 |

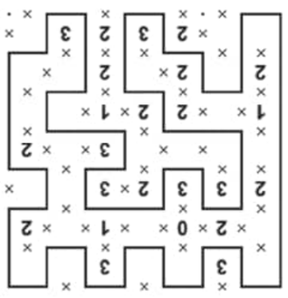
**ALPHA TRIANGLE**

D, De, Ode, Done, Toned, Atoned, Notated.

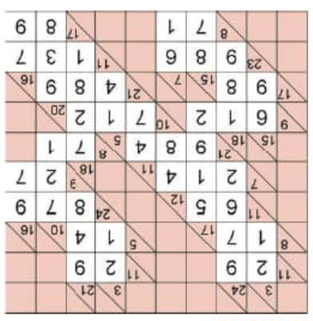
**GO FIGURE**

Easy
4 + 6 + 6 + 5 = 21
Medium
2 + 7 / 3 x 8 = 24
Hard
5 - 2 + 7 x 1 = 10

**LOOP**



**KAKURO**



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*For the one who repeats the same tales,*
*but makes them feel new each time*

*Because Deepavali isn't just about giving.*
*It's about keeping alive the ties that bind us.*
*And the stories we share.*
*So this year, let your gift carry a story*
*a story of love that endures of bonds that remain*
*even with the ones who drive us nuts*
*but whom we'll always love.*

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GIFT BOLAS

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